

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): ~~Method~~ A method for the selective concentration of a macromolecule or of an agglomerate of molecules or of particles ~~contained~~ comprised in a liquid sample, the method successively comprising: ~~comprising successively the following steps:~~

- ~~formation of~~ forming a stabilized dispersion of foam or emulsion type, from a medium comprising said liquid sample and an interface layer, said interface layer being capable of selectively fixing said macromolecule or said agglomerate to be concentrated; and
- reforming said interface layer by the resorption of the dispersion formed during said forming a stabilized dispersion. ~~the preceding step so as to reform said interface layer.~~

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): ~~Concentration~~ The method according to Claim 1, ~~in which~~ wherein said forming a stabilized dispersion ~~the dispersion formation step~~ is carried out by mechanical agitation of the medium comprising said liquid sample and said interface layer.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): ~~Concentration~~ The method according to Claim 1, ~~in which~~ wherein said forming a stabilized dispersion ~~the dispersion formation step~~ is carried out by injection, directly into the liquid sample, of gaseous or liquid capillary jets.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): ~~Concentration~~ The method according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 3, in which~~ Claim 1, wherein the interface layer comprises at least one molecule capable of selectively fixing said macromolecule or said agglomerate.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): ~~Concentration~~ The method according to Claim 4, ~~in which~~ wherein the molecule capable of fixing the macromolecule or agglomerate of molecules or of particles to be concentrated is a molecule comprising groups capable of fixing the macromolecule or agglomerate by chemical affinity, electric or magnetic polarization, and/or ionization. ~~ionization, said molecule preferably being a surfactant molecule.~~

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): ~~Concentration~~ The method according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 5, in which~~ Claim 1, wherein the macromolecule is ~~chosen~~ selected from the group consisting of nucleic acids, ~~acids and~~ proteins, ~~such as~~ antigens and antibodies.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): ~~Concentration~~ The method according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 3, in which~~ Claim 1, wherein the agglomerate of molecules is a prion.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): ~~Concentration~~ The method according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 5, in which~~ Claim 1, wherein the agglomerate of particles is ~~chosen from the group consisting of~~ colloidal particles.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): ~~Method~~ The method according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 6, in which~~ Claim 1, wherein the macromolecule to be concentrated is DNA.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): ~~Method~~ The method according to Claim 4, wherein ~~in which, when~~ the macromolecule to be concentrated is DNA, and the molecule capable of

fixing the DNA is functionalized with a probe so as to allow the specific hybridization of the DNA to be concentrated.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): ~~Method~~ The method according to Claim 10, ~~in which~~ wherein the molecule capable of fixing the DNA is a lipid functionalized with a DNA probe complementary to the DNA to be concentrated.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): ~~Method~~ The method according to Claim 11, ~~in which~~ wherein the lipid is a biotinylated lipid comprising an avidin group or avidin derivative, onto which the complementary DNA is grafted by means of a biotinylated end incorporated into said DNA beforehand.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): ~~Method~~ The method according to Claim 11, ~~in which~~ wherein the lipid is a cationic lipid comprising at least one spermine group onto which the complementary DNA is adsorbed.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): ~~Method~~ A method for the purification of a macromolecule or of an agglomerate of molecules or particles initially ~~contained~~ comprised in a liquid sample, the method comprising

~~the concentration of~~ concentrating said macromolecule or ~~[[of]]~~ said agglomerate within a layer using the method according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 13~~, Claim 1, and then ~~the elimination of~~ eliminating the liquid sample depleted of said macromolecule or said agglomerate. ~~agglomerate, after the concentration step.~~

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): ~~Method~~ A method for the detection of a macromolecule or of an agglomerate of molecules or particles initially ~~contained~~ comprised in a liquid sample, the method comprising

~~the concentration,~~ concentrating, within a layer, ~~of~~ said macromolecule or ~~of~~ said agglomerate using the method according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 13,~~ Claim 1, and

~~the detection of~~ detecting said macromolecule or ~~of~~ said agglomerate within said layer. ~~layer by means of appropriate detection techniques.~~

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): ~~Method~~ A method for the amplification of a macromolecule or of an agglomerate of molecules or of particles initially ~~contained~~ comprised in a liquid sample, the method comprising

~~the concentration of~~ concentrating said macromolecule or ~~[[of]]~~ said agglomerate within a layer using the method according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 13,~~ Claim 1, and then

~~the replacement of~~ replacing said liquid sample, ~~after the step for concentrating said macromolecule or said agglomerate,~~ within said layer, with a liquid comprising amplification agents, and then

~~followed by the step of amplification~~ amplifying by means of said agents.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): ~~Amplification~~ The method according to Claim 16, ~~in which~~ wherein the macromolecule is a DNA.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): ~~Amplification~~ The method according to Claim 16, ~~in which~~ wherein the agglomerate of molecules is a prion.

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Claim 19 (New): The method according to Claim 5, wherein said molecule is a surfactant molecule.